**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Use: Thursday 24 November 2016**

**Cosey Fanni Tutti and Genesis P-Orridge live performances as part of COUM Transmissions retrospective for Hull 2017**

**Cosey Fanni Tutti and Genesis P-Orridge are set to give live performances in an extended programme of events to mark the radical art collective COUM Transmissions.**

**The events will coincide with the first retrospective of COUM Transmissions being staged as part of Hull UK City of Culture 2017 from 3 February – 22 March**

Cosey Fanni Tutti, Cabinet, London and Luke Turner and Sophie Coletta of leading

independent online music and arts publication The Quietus in collaboration with Hull 2017 City of Culture have curated a programme of live and club events, panel discussions and talks, to celebrate the practice and impact of ***COUM Transmissions****,* tracing a line from the group’s conception in 1969 to their termination at the Prostitution retrospective held at the ICA in October 1976, exploring a legacy that endures today.

The events will run alongside a six-week long exhibition at **Humber Street Gallery,** a brand new contemporary art space for the city showcasing the best contemporary art in the heart of the Hull’s Fruit Market cultural quarter. ***COUM Transmissions***, curated by Cosey Fanni Tutti and Cabinet, London, will present material drawn from the archives of Cosey Fanni Tutti and Genesis P-Orridge (held by Tate Britain) alongside new filmed interviews with some original COUM members.

The live programme will feature performances and appearances from original COUM members, as well as subsequent generations of artists they have both directly and inadvertently inspired. It will seek to reclaim Hull as an important site of cultural innovators working on the peripheries of the underground.

Cosey Fanni Tutti and Genesis P-Orridge will be opening proceedings with separate specially commissioned live solo performances at FRüIT, situated next door to Humber Street Gallery, on Friday 3 February.

**Cosey Fanni Tutti,** talking on her return to Hull, said: *“So much has changed for me and Hull since I left in 1973. I couldn’t get out quickly enough - and some who thought of me and COUM as distasteful, disruptive elements couldn’t wait for me to leave either. My own and COUM’s activities went up quite a few notches after Hull. Now I’ll be back and Hull is all ‘cultured up’, embracing COUM and recognising its influence and place in art history. I’m thrilled to be returning to my hometown to co-curate the first ever COUM exhibition… and in Humber Street Gallery, one of the former fruit warehouses that unwittingly fed me for free when I was penniless and hungry.”*

Genesis P-Orridge explains, *"We left Hull in July 1973 and have never been back since. We also burned all our journals from that era too. Leaving us with very few triggers to reviewing any memories. As the COUM collective we didn't like the term 'perform', it implies choosing to pretend to be... we were more happy with “actions”, something you DO, spontaneous, energised, intuitive and a coumpulsion. For us “The none creation of art is as valid as creating it”. The thought alone is often enough.  So walking those streets in Hull again in 2016 was like being a ghost searching for my SELF in a distant past. The strangest and most unexpected feeling we experienced was that everywhere, every building, seemed smaller than we recall. Just like accessing memories of events as a very young child things are often seen as far more large in scale, more overwhelming; for me visiting Hull had the opposite effect. When we checked our Hull memories against the present day, we discovered that everything felt like it had shrunk. Not just a little, but by a huge amount."*

**Martin Green, CEO** and **Director Hull2017**, said: *''The COUM Transmissions retrospective at Humber Street Gallery and these live events will offer a belated contemporary insight into this groundbreaking art collective, which continues to be hugely influential. As one of the early highlights of Hull 2017 it underlines how this city has been at the forefront of cutting edge ideas that challenge convention."*

**LIVE EVENTS PROGRAMME**

**DATE: Friday 3 February**

**FEATURING:** Genesis P-Orridge, Cosey Fanni Tutti, Quietus DJs

**VENUE:** FRüIT, 62-63 Humber St, Hull HU1 1TU

**TIME:**

**PRICE:** £15 Full Price (£12 concession)

**Cosey Fanni Tutti** and **Genesis P-Orridge** will be opening proceedings with separate specially commissioned live solo performances followed by sets from The Quietus DJs.

**DATE: Saturday 4 February**

**FEATURING**: Panel discussions featuring Cosey Fanni Tutti, Genesis P-Orridge, John Lacey, Spydeee Gasmantell, Foxtrot Echo, Luke Turner, Anne Hilde Neset, Paul Buck, Dan Fox and Ghislaine Leung

Performances from John Doran and Simon Fisher Turner, Squarewaves

**VENUE:** FRüIT, 62-63 Humber St, Hull HU1 1TU

**TIME:**

**PRICE:** Free (ticketed)

On Saturday 4 February FRüIT will host two panels.

The first will provide a history and context to ***COUM Transmissions***, and will feature a selection of original members in a discussion moderated by **Luke Turner** of **The Quietus**.

The second will feature a line-up of writers and cultural commentators who will look more broadly at the influence of ***COUM’s*** methodology and practice, looking beyond their work and at how contemporary art collectives function today.

Alongside these panels **The Quietus** editor **John Doran**, who spent years in Hull in the 90s working in some of the same factories as *COUM* members, will be performing a piece based on personal and collected industrial memories of the city alongside musician **Simon Fisher Turner**. Hull’s own contemporary improvisational collective **Squarewaves** will be closing the day with a live set.

An afterparty will see **Richard D. Clouston's Cosey Club** take up residence – venue to be announced.

**DATE: Friday 17 March**

**FEATURING:** Cosey Book reading and Q&A with Lee Brackstone / Adelle Stripe as part of FABER SOCIAL.

VENUE:

TIME:

PRICE:

**DATE: Saturday 18 March**

**FEATURING:** Carter Tutti Void, Anthony Child (Surgeon), Quietus DJs

**VENUE:** FRüIT, 62-63 Humber St, Hull HU1 1TU

**TIME:**

**PRICE:** £15 Full Price (£12 Concession)

The closing events in March 2017 will explore the legacy of ***COUM’s*** work in Hull, looking to the cultural landscape post-COUM and beyond. Anthony Child (aka **Surgeon**) will perform at FRüIT on Saturday 18 March with a specially commissioned live COUM-influenced ambient set. **Carter Tutti Void**, the cross-generational trio of Cosey Fanni Tutti, Chris Carter and Nik Void of Factory Floor, will headline. This will be a reconvening of a group who have provided an exhilarating, visceral antithesis to contemporary cultural and social monotone.

**DATE: Sunday 19 March**

**FEATURING**: Kiran Sande, Alex Wilson, Sophie Coletta

**VENUE:** The Polar Bear, 229 Spring Bank, Hull HU3

**TIME:**

**PRICE:** £15 Full Price (£12 Concession)

Closing proceedings at **The Polar Bear** on Spring Bank on Sunday 19 March will be a showcase of Hull-inspired sets from some of the city’s underground exports; cultural innovators who grew up in the area and can just about still recall a youth spent loitering on Queen’s Gardens and mainlining toxic green Spiders cocktails.

Heading up the bill will be **Kiran Sande** of Blackest Ever Black, an underground record label that has been bringing sonically dark mischief to our ears since 2010, and whose mix CD-Rs *ID Mud* and *Dream Theory In Haltemprice* have touched upon Hull in more than name alone. Also appearing will be **Alex Wilson**, who co-runs Public Information, a label that has released a fascinating survey of electronics from the last seven decades, and who will also be presenting a paper entitled: *Thee Fabulous Mutations: Film and Video in Yorkshire after COUM* in Hull as part of a separate Hull 2017 event. They’ll be joined by *the Quietus’* **Sophie Coletta**, who, after spending many teenage years staring longingly down the mouth of the Humber, fled and returned to Hull’s clutches multiple times in the 2000s.

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW - FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE HULL 2017 WEBSITE:** [**WWW.HULL2017.CO.UK**](http://www.hull2017.co.uk)

**For more information please visit the Hull 2017 website:** [**www.hull2017.co.uk**](http://www.hull2017.co.uk)

The best way to keep up to date with this and other Hull 2017 events and activities is to register at [www.hull2017.co.uk/signup](http://www.hull2017.co.uk/signup).

@2017Hull / #Hull2017

**ENDS**

For further media information, photos, interviews and press ticket enquiries about COUM Transmissions please contact –

Clare McCormack - Senior Publicist at The Corner Shop PR on

[clare@thecornershoppr.com](mailto:clare@thecornershoppr.com) or 0131 202 6220 \ 07989 950 871

Or

Zoe Miller – on [zoe.miller@zopfpr.com](mailto:zoe.miller@zopfpr.com) or

For general information about Hull 2017, please contact –

Ben McKnight: [ben.mcknight@hull2017.co.uk](mailto:ben.mcknight@hull2017.co.uk) / 07718 100793

**GENERAL EXHIBITION LISTINGS**

**EXHIBITION DATES:** 3 February – 22 March 2017

**GALLERY**: Humber Street Gallery, 64 Humber Street, The Fruitmarket, Hull, HU1 1TU

**OPENING HOURS:** Monday – Sunday/ 10m – 8pm

**PRICE:** Free

**ARTISTS’ BIOGRAPHIES**

**Cosey Fanni Tutti,** born 1951 in Hull, UK.   
Cosey Fanni Tutti whose music and art career began in 1969 is a respected artist and musician of worldwide renown - for her Art, her work in the sex industry, as co founder of Industrial music and Throbbing Gristle, and her pioneering electronic music as ‘Chris & Cosey’ and ‘Carter Tutti’.

Her work includes her seminal Magazine Actions from the late Seventies, performances with COUM Transmissions (1974 -1976), sound experimentations with Throbbing Gristle (1976 - 2010) and continuing musical exploration, solo or under the aegis of Chris & Cosey and Carter Tutti comprise Cosey’s diverse and comprehensive practice.

Cosey’s work has featured in institutional exhibitions around the world for over three decades, significantly and more recently this includes 2016, Black Sheep Feminism, Dallas Contemporary, USA, Tate Britain’s new collection display, Has the Film Already Started?, 2011; Pop Life: Art in a Material World, Tate Modern, London, 2009, Kyoto Triennial, Japan, 2008, Panic Attack, Barbican, London and WACK! Art & The Feminist Revolution, MOCA, Los Angeles, 2007 and It’s Time for Action, Migros Museum, Zurich, 2006.

Cosey’s autobiography ART SEX MUSIC will be published by Faber & Faber in 2017.

**Genesis Breyer P-Orridge** (b. 1950) is the legendary English singer-songwriter, musician, poet, performance, and visual artist.

P-Orridge rose to notability as founder of the COUM Transmissions art collective, which operated in Britain from 1969 to 1976. P-Orridge fronted the pioneering industrial band Throbbing Gristle between 1975 and 1981 and the experimental multimedia commonage Psychic TV from 1981 to present. In 1996, P-Orridge and partner Jackie “Lady Jaye” Breyer P-Orridge embarked on the Pandrogyne Project. P-Orridge currently performs within he/r spoken word project, Thee Majesty, and the most current incarnation of Psychic TV labeled PTV3. Collaborators include Aaron Dilloway, Merzbow, Tony Conrad, William S. Burroughs, Timothy Leary, Monte Cazazza, Hafler Trio, White Stains, Z’ev, and countless others.

P-Orridge’s visual works have been exhibited in hundreds of exhibitions across the world over the past 46 years, recently culminating in retrospectives at the Andy Warhol Museum and the Rubin Museum of Art.

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**About Hull UK City of Culture 2017**

Hull secured the title of UK City of Culture 2017 in November 2013. It is only the second city to hold the title and the first in England. The vision of the Hull 2017 Culture Company, the delivery organisation of the project, is “to deliver 365 days of transformative culture in 2017 through a range of diverse and high-profile events and projects”.

The Culture Company is an independent organisation with charitable status, funded both publicly and privately. It has raised £32 million to deliver the programme, with key contributions coming from: Host City – Hull City Council; Principal Partners - Arts Council England, BBC, Big Lottery Fund, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Heritage Lottery Fund, KCOM, KWL, Spirit of 2012, Yorkshire Water and the University of Hull; Major Partners –Associated British Ports, Arco, BP, the British Council, Hull Clinical Commissioning Group, MKM Building Supplies, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Sewell Group, Smith & Nephew and Wykeland Group.

Hull 2017’s International Partners are: Aarhus, Denmark, which is European Capital of Culture 2017; Reykjavik, Iceland; Rotterdam, The Netherlands; and Freetown, Sierra Leone (twinned with Hull).

[www.hull2017.co.uk](http://www.hull2017.co.uk)

Cabinet, London

**Humber Street Gallery,** which opens in February 2017 with the first ever retrospective of COUM Transmissions curated by Cosey Fanni Tutti, will be new contemporary art space for Hull, rooted in the history of contemporary art practice that the city has inspired and responsive to and reflective of the themes and seasons of Hull 2017.

Located in a former fruit warehouse at 64 Humber Street in the heart of the Fruit Market cultural quarter, this pop-up gallery will be forward-thinking in its choice of exhibitions and present the best of all aspects of contemporary visual art, design, fashion, photography and craft. Without compromising artistic integrity it will also focus on popular culture and social history to broaden the appeal and accessibility of the exhibitions. The Humber Street Gallery will be a space where people can interact, learn and be inspired. Another aim is to trigger debate, expand boundaries and encourage change and development, both for those familiar with the arts and those who may never have experienced the arts and contemporary visual art in particular. More details about the gallery will be announced in early 2017.

**Sarah Lucas**

Three sculptures by world-renowned artist Sarah Lucas will be on show at the same time as the COUM Transmissions retrospective. Sarah caused a sensation in the 1990s for her tongue-in-cheek depictions of nudes. It was these controversial works that secured her a place in the Young British Artists movement, along with the likes of Damien Hirst, Tracey Emin and Jake and Dinos Chapman.

**The Quietus** is the UK's leading independent online magazine devoted to music and culture. Founded in 2008, it has gained a reputation for incisive, opinionated, informed journalism, and was a pioneer of the longform trend in online journalism. We do not believe in barriers between genre, but in a fractured musical climate want to celebrate the best in music from across the world, whether it be techno, metal, avant-garde, indie, dub, psychedelia, rock, noise, electronic music, house or disco. We believe that music does not exist in a vacuum, and have increasingly popular sections devoted to film and literature. We also run regular, well-read and respected, opinion pieces on music politics, social and gender issues in our Black Sky Thinking op-ed strand.